

REMARKS

Claims 17, 19, 20 and 22 are presently canceled. Claims 1-16 and 26 were previously canceled. Claims 13-16 and 26 were not elected. No new claims have been added. Thus, claims 18, 21, and 23-25 are currently pending. Applicant is appreciative of the recognition of allowable subject matter in connection with dependent claim 21. Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim 21 has been written in independent form to include the limitations of its base claim and intervening claims, and therefore it now recites the subject matter indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. Consequently, the objection to claim 21 and the rejection of claims depending from claim 21 should be withdrawn.

Claim 23 has also been written in independent form to recite subject matter essentially consistent with the Examiner's determination of allowable subject matter in connection with claim 21. Consequently, the rejection of claim 23 and claims depending there from should be withdrawn. No new matter is presented, since the added limitations were included in previously-examined claim 21.

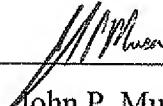
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the objections and rejections and timely pass the application to allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including fees for additional claims and terminal disclaimer fee, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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